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The Question Recurs . . .

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Because of the resignation of Dr. James A. Killian, President Kennedy has appointed his own trusted adviser, Clark Clifford, to be chairman of the Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

This board keeps tabs on the Central Intelligence Agency and other hush-hush outfits in the government.

As a bird dog for the President, it no doubt is useful.

But it is part of the administration, just

as the CIA and the other secret agencies are.

It doesn't answer the recurring question: Why shouldn't Congress set up its own committee to eagle-eye the spy outfit? These agencies spent who-knows-how-many billions of taxpayer money without any real accounting to Congress, and thus indirectly to the public.

A bi-partisan joint committee of Congress, functioning in this area as similar Congressional committees do in other fields (such as atomic energy), would be an assurance, at least, that the country is getting the results it is paying for.

It is the more important because there is so much necessary secrecy in the intelligence game—yet it is the least policed of all the innumerable branches of the government.